



# Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center  
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Volume XX-03

Number 32

September 8, 2003

## Centennial of Flight Activities

The National Air Tour 2003 is a recreation of the National Air Tours that took place from 1925 through 1931 during the "Golden Age of Aviation."

Approximately 33 rare, vintage airplanes from the '20s and '30s flying under visual flight rules (VFR), and a host of modern support airplanes, will follow a 4,000 mile route visiting 26 airports between September 8 and 24, weather permitting

This is a chance to see vintage aircraft from the 1920s and 1930s, including Ford tri-motors, Stinson tri-motors, and aircraft with romantic old names like Travel Air, WACO, Paramount, Curtiss, New Standard and Eaglerock. There will be bi-planes, monoplanes and flying boats, all reviving the Golden Age of Aviation.

The National Air Tour will made a stop on September 20, at the First

Flight Field, Kill Devil Hills, N.C. The planes will be parked in a circle around the base of the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

On September 21, the Tour will be at the Richmond (VA) International Airport, and then Dulles International Airport, Washington, DC.

These stops are a once in a lifetime opportunity to see a truly unique collection of historic aircraft. For more information visit: <http://www.nationalairtour.org/>

### NASA Exhibit

The Outer Banks History Center in Manteo, N.C., is the latest stop for the NASA art exhibit "Pushing the Limits: Aviation Flight Research as Seen Through the NASA Art Program".

The exhibit opened August 24 and will be at the Outer Banks History Center to the end of this year.

## NASA Wallops' Newest Retirees



Photo by James Mason-Foley

Pete Bradfield, (above) NASA Aircraft Office, retired effective September 1. Bradfield was the Airborne Science Project Manager at the time of his retirement. He began his government career on July 5, 1966.

During his military career, Bradfield flew 1000 hours as crew chief in Marine CH-46 helicopters and was the last American, along with the two pilots, to fly a combat aircraft sortie over North Vietnam. The flight was in "Lady Ace-5" in July 1973 near Cat Bi, North Vietnam. He has logged 5000 hours as mission manager in NASA airborne science aircraft including the UH1 Helicopter; C54 Skymaster, T39 Sabreliner Jet; L188 Electra; and the P3A and P3B-Orion aircraft.

## Catherine Tindle Receives NASA Medal



NASA GSFC Photo

**Catherine Tindle, center, receives the NASA Exceptional Administrative Achievement Medal from Al Diaz, left, Director of Goddard Space Flight Center, and Dr. Ghassem Asrar, Associate Administrator for Earth Science, NASA Headquarters.**

In recognition of her outstanding support in developing a work management process for the Wallops Institutional Consolidated Contract, a NASA Exceptional Administrative Achievement Medal was presented to Catherine Tindle, Facilities Management Branch.

The presentation was made during the 2003 NASA Honor Awards

Ceremony held on August 27 at Goddard Space Flight Center.

This medal is awarded to any person in the Federal service for a significant, specific accomplishment or contribution characterized by unusual initiative or creativity that clearly demonstrates a substantial improvement in administrative support contributing to the mission of NASA.

Charles A. Renn, Jr., NASA Electrical Engineering Branch, retired effective August 31. Renn was an electronics technician and began his government career on December 29, 1982.

His support to NASA also included 20 additional years as an employee of Computer Sciences Corp. at Wallops and the Bendix Corp. at locations throughout the world.



Photo by Tom Burton

Renn (left) has provided engineering, technical, and operations support to many NASA programs mostly in

the development of tracking and data acquisition systems. Notable programs supported include the Sounding Rocket Program, the Space Transportation System (STS) Program and the Apollo Program.

## Summer Showers

By Ted Wilz, Senior Meteorologist

The rain showers we've had for most of the summer continued in August. There were 16 days with measurable precipitation, twice our monthly average. A total of 4.93 inches of rainfall was recorded. This is 1 ¼ inches above the normal rainfall of 3.68 inches for this area.

Showers and thunderstorms produced some heavy downpours. On three occasions these systems produced over ¾ of an inch of rainfall. Strong winds in excess of 40 mph were recorded on four occasions. The strongest wind of the month was a 56 mph wind gust that occurred with a thunderstorm on Tuesday, August 26.

Although the weather during August was quite wet, temperatures averaged just slightly above normal. No new record highs or lows were set, and the mercury only reached 90 degrees on four days. A 91-degree reading on the 27<sup>th</sup> and on the 30<sup>th</sup> was the warmest temperature of the month. The coolest temperatures occurred on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, when the low temperature dipped to 60 degrees.

What can we expect as fall approaches? October and November are usually one of the driest times of the year along the Eastern Shore.

The average monthly rainfall for October is 2.87 inches, with measurable rainfall occurring on eight days of the month. Although showers and thunderstorms are still possible, they are rare during October.

Temperatures for October usually cool off significantly with an average high at the beginning of the month in the low 70's dropping to the low 60's by end of the month. Low temperatures are usually in the mid-50's at the beginning of October, but then drop to the mid-40's as November approaches.

Although the U.S. has been spared so far this hurricane season, we should not let our guard down. At the current time the sixth named storm of the season, Hurricane Fabian, is a major hurricane moving towards the southeast U.S.

The National Hurricane Center has slightly downgraded their seasonal forecast, we should remain prepared to respond to any weather situation.



Photo by James Mason-Foley

Sandra Kleckner, Federal Women's Program Manager, (left), presented a plaque to Sarah Byrn Rickman, featured speaker for the Women's Equality Day Luncheon on August 26. Her talk was based on her nonfiction work, **The Originals, The Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron of World War II**. Rickman is a freelance writer and author of two books.

## Wallops Shorts.....

### In the News

#### Virginia Pilot

"Beyond Vieques"

#### Associated Foreign Press

"NASA Plane Makes Emergency Landing in Chile"

#### Virginia Pilot

"Windmill Farm Proposal Meets Little Resistance"

#### Balloon Launch

A NASA scientific balloon was successfully launched from Ft. Sumner, N.M. on September 1. The 11.82 million cubic foot balloon was a test flight of the modified flare genesis instrument. Dr. David Rust, Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory, was the principal investigator. Float altitude was 109,000 feet. Total flight time was 9 hours, 48 minutes.

## World Super Welterweight Championship

### Del La Hoya vs Mosley II

On the wide screen TV in the Rocket Club

Doors open at 8 p.m., September 13

For information call Bob Tittle, x1244

## Fall Dart League

Sign-ups for the Fall Dart League begin at 4:45 p.m. on September 18 in Building F-3. Rules, requirements and other topics will be discussed at this meeting.

NASA civil service, contractor and partnering tenant employees are invited to participate.

For further details call Alex Coleman on x1976 or by email: Alexander.M.Coleman@nasa.gov

## American Heritage Week

### Celebration

October 6 - 9, 2003

"Celebrating our Eastern Shore Heritage"

## Discount Tickets

### Maryland Renaissance Festival

Discount tickets are now available at the WEMA Exchange, Building E-2, for the Maryland Renaissance Festival.

The Festival located in Crownsville, Md., near Annapolis, is open weekends August 23 - October 19.

Adults (16 & up) \$13.00

Children (7 - 15) \$6.50

Call Karen Thornes on x2020 for additional information.

### Virginia State Fair

Coupons are available at the Exchange for \$4 off the \$17.99 admission price for ages 7-59 to the Virginia State Fair.

The Fair takes place daily at the Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, Va., from September 25 through October 5.

For further information and a schedule of entertainment shows visit the State Fair web site: [www.statefair.com](http://www.statefair.com)

**For Sale:** 1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited 4D Fully Loaded \$8,000 Call (757) 665-5220

*Inside Wallops* is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: [www.wff.nasa.gov](http://www.wff.nasa.gov)

Editor: Betty Flowers